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APPLICATION NO	).   I	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO
10/666,090		09/19/2003	Robert C. Lam	02074/02091 8977	
43215	7590	07/12/2006		EXAMINER	
BORGWA		=	SPERTY, ARDEN B		
PATENT DEPARTMENT 3850 HAMLIN ROAD				ART UNIT PAPER NUMBE	
AUBURN	HILLS, M	II 48326-2872	1771		
				DATE MAILED: 07/12/2006	5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		A == 1;4; 1							
		Application No.	Applicant(s)	F					
Office Action Commence		10/666,090	LAM ET AL.						
	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit						
·		Arden B. Sperty	1771						
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communication app or Reply	ears on the cover sheet w	ith the correspondence addres	is					
WHI( - Exte after - If NO - Failt Any	IORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY CHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DANSIONS of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Deperiod for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period ware to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing ed patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNI 36(a). In no event, however, may a vill apply and will expire SIX (6) MON cause the application to become Al	CATION. reply be timely filed  NTHS from the mailing date of this commu						
Status									
1)[\]	Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 A	nril 2006							
	Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>27 April 2006</u> .  This action is <b>FINAL</b> . 2b)⊠ This action is non-final.								
3)	-,								
٠,١	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.								
Disnosit	ion of Claims	x parte quayre, 1909 C.L	7. 11, 400 O.G. 210.						
4)[2]	Claim(s) <u>1-3,7-17,28 and 29</u> is/are pending in the application.								
5)□	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.  Claim(s) is/are allowed.								
	<del>-</del> ·								
	Claim(s) <u>1-3, 7-17, 28,29</u> is/are rejected. Claim(s) is/are objected to.								
	Claim(s) is/are objected to:  Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.								
	ion Papers	olection requirement.							
	·								
	The specification is objected to by the Examine								
10)	The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acce								
	Applicant may not request that any objection to the o								
11)	Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correcti The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex-								
	ınder 35 U.S.C. § 119								
	Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign  ☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:	priority under 35 U.S.C. §	119(a)-(d) or (f).						
	1. Certified copies of the priority documents	have been received.							
	2. Certified copies of the priority documents		pplication No.						
	3. Copies of the certified copies of the priori			ie					
	application from the International Bureau								
* S	see the attached detailed Office action for a list of	of the certified copies not	received.						
Attachment	(s)								
	e of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview 9	ummary (PTO-413)						
2) 🔲 Notic	e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s	s)/Mail Date						
Inforn (ک Paper	nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) No(s)/Mail Date	5)  Notice of Ir 6)  Other:	nformal Patent Application (PTO-152) —·	1					

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## NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

1. Applicant's amendments and comments, submitted 4/27/06, have been entered and carefully considered. The indication of allowable subject matter set forth in the previous office action, dated 3/08/06, in view of an updated inventor search, which resulted in the Double Patenting rejections set forth herein.

## **Double Patenting**

2. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

3. Claims 1-3,7-17, and 28-29 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 11 and 12 of U.S. Patent No. 6875711.

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the amounts of each component in the issued patent would have been determined by one of ordinary skill in the art. In re Aller (CCPA) 105 USPQ 233.

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4. Claims 1-3, 7-17, and 28-29 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-28 of copending Application No. 10/888245 in view of US Patent 6875711. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to employ the impregnant of claims 1-22 of Application No. 10/888245 in a fibrous material as disclosed by US Patent 6875711. Furthermore, the fibrous material of claims 23-29 suggests the fibrous material disclosed by US Patent 6875711, thus it would have been obvious to incorporate the particulars taught by US Patent 6875711.

This is a <u>provisional</u> obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

5. Claims 1-3, 7-17, and 28-29 are provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-17 of copending Application No. 10/871786. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because they are drawn to essentially the same inventions. Any minor differences would have been implied or obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

This is a <u>provisional</u> obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

## Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arden B. Sperty whose telephone number is (571)272-1543. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 08:00-16:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Terrel Morris can be reached on (571)272-1478. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Arden B. Sperty Examiner

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June 28, 2006